

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

LUSAKA, SEPTEMBER 18 -- KISSINGER VISIT DOMINATES THE NEWS IN
LOCAL PRESS SATURDAY (SEPT 18) WITH EMPHASIS KISSINGER
SCHEDULE FOLLOWING LUSAKA.

FRONT PAGE OF DAILY MAIL CARRIES FOLLOWING HEADLINES: "KK'S
WARNING TO US SECRETARY OF STATE: "DON'T GIVE TRICKY SMITH
AND CHANCE;" BLOODY RIOTS GREET DR K IN SA;" "SMITH HOPES
TO MEET KISSINGER;" "MY CONDITION ON MEETING IAN -- BY KISSINGER."

"WARNING" STORY BYLINED "BY STAFF REPORTER" SAYS "PRESIDENT
KAUNDA YESTERDAY WARNED US SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER
TO AVOID GIVING ANY LEGITIMACY TO REBEL LEADER IAN SMITH WHEN HE
MEETS HIM IN PRETORIA." REMAINING STORY BASICALLY VERBATIM ACCOUNT
OF KAUNDA REMARKS GIVEN TO PRESS AT STATE HOUSE ON SEPT 17
DURING KAUNDA-KISSINGER TALKS. (TRANSCRIPT SENT BY SEPTTEL).

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REUTERS DISPATCH DATELINED UMTALI, RHODESIA SAYS "REBEL LEADER

IAN SMITH SAID YESTERDAY HE HOPED TO MEET US SEC STATE HENRY KISSINGER DURING A VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA THIS WEEKEND." REMARKS WERE MADE AT PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THREE-DAY CONGRESS OF RULING RHODESIAN FRONT PARTY. SMITH TOLD PRESS NO ARRANGEMENTS HAD YET BEEN MADE. ACCORDING TO REUTERS, SMITH SAID HIS ORIGINAL REASON FOR VISITING PRETORIA WAS TO WATCH RUGBY GAME AND HOLD TALKS WITH VORSTER AND THAT KISSINGER VISIT SUBSEQUENTLY DEVELOPED AT SAME TIME. MR. SMITH SAID HE HOPE AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS RHODESIA WOULD DIFFER FROM BRITISH DEMANDS THAT THERE SHOULD BE BLACK RULE IN THE COUNTRY WITHIN TWO YEARS. 'IF THERE IS NO CHANGE I DO NOT HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE OF SUCCESS OR OF ACHIEVING A SETTLEMENT,' MR. SMITH SAID." REUTERS QUOTES SMITH AS SAYING HE DID NOT ACTUALLY KNOW IF THERE WOULD BE NEGOTIATIONS. ALSO: "BECAUSE OF THE CRISIS WHICH CONFRONTS US, I BELIEVE OUR ROOM FOR MANEUVER HAS BEEN REDUCED AND WE HAVE NOT GOT THE TIME THAT WE USED TO HAVE IN THE PAST. WE JUST FACE UP TO THIS SITUATION.'

MAJOR FRONT PAGE STORY, ALSO REUTERS, CARRIES EXTENSIVE ACCOUNT OF LATEST SOUTH AFRICAN RIOTS IN SOWETO AND CAPE TOWN. LEAD STATES: "US SEC STATE HENRY KISSINGER ARRIVED IN SOUTH AFRICA ON HIS PEACE MISSION LAST NIGHT TO FIND TENSION BETWEEN BLACKS AND WHITES AT ITS HIGHEST PITCH SINCE RIOTING AGAINST WHITE DOMINATION ERUPTED THREE MONTHS AGO." FOLLOWING DETAILS OF RIOTS, DISPATCH ENDS WITH WASHINGTON DENIAL OF RUMOR THAT KISSINGER HAD BEEN SHOUT IN SOUTH AFRICA.

STORY OF KISSINGER CONDITIONS FOR MEETING SMITH IS BYLINED "BY MAIL REPORTER." ARTICLE VIRTUAL VERBATIM ACCOUNT OF AIRPORT DEPARTURE REMARKS AT LUSAKA AIRPORT ON SEPT 18 (TRANSCRIPT SENT BY SEPTTEL). LEAD: "US SEC STATE HENRY KISSINGER LEFT FOR PRETORIA YESTERDAY WITH A FIRM PLEDGE THAT HE WILL ONLY MEET REBEL LEADER IAN SMITH IF SUCH A MEETING IS THE FINAL ELEMENT IN REACHING A SETTLEMENT OVER THE ZIMBAWEAN DEADLOCK." STORY ENDS WITH BRIEF PARAGRAPH ON REMARKS MADE IN LUSAKA TO THE PRESS BY NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR ON OCCASION OF 28TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DPRK. REMARKS SAY THAT FORD IS SENDING KISSINGER ON DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS TO WIN FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS IN AMERICA.

PAGE 3 STORY IN DAILY MAIL CARRIES REUTERS ACCOUNT OF GHANAIAAN TIMES COMMENT: "THE GHANAIAAN TIMES HAS DESCRIBED US SEC STATE UNCLASSIFIED

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HENRY KISSINGER AS 'A MORE DANGEROUS ENEMY OF THE AFRICAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE THAN VORSTER AND SMITH.'" ALSO: 'AND FOR HIS PART IN THE AFRICAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE, THE FURTHER TITLE OF THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE CONFUSIONIST MUST BE ADDED TO HIS CREDENTIALS.'"

TIMES OF ZAMBIA OF SEPT 18 CARRIES FULL ACCOUNT OF LUSAKA AIRPORT DEPARTURE REMARKS UNDER HEADLINE: "SMITH CHALLENGED; KISSINGER ISSUES MAJORITY RULE POSER." SAME STORY ALSO CARRIES

ACCOUNT OF KAUNDA STATE HOUSE REMARKS. COLUMN CARRIES REUTERS
REPORT OF REMARKS IN OTTAWA BY BRITISH PM CALLAGHAN ON THURSDAY:
"EUROPEANS CANNOT WIN A PROLONGED ARMED STRUGGLE. THEY HAVE NOT
YET ACCEPTED THAT, BUT FREEDOM FIGHTER ACTIVITY IS INCREASING
ON THE BORDERS OF RHODESIA." STORY ALSO INCLUDES REACTION
OF GARFIELD TODD FORMER SOUTHERN RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER
THAT RHODESIA WAS FIGHTING A CIVIL WAR AND THAT REBEL REGIME
HAD FAILED TO COME TO TERMS OVER THE YEARS WITH AFRICAN
MAJORITY AND THAT SITUATION NOW WAS VERY GRIM.

TIMES CARRIES REUTERS DISPATCH OF LATEST SOUTH AFRICAN RIOTS
UNDER SIMPLE HEAD: "11 DIE IN RACE RIOTS."
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